



It's hard to believe that we are in the Summer term and that some of our children will be transitioning to school in September. We are very proud of all the children and have loved working with them this year. Thank you for your continued support and a special thanks to Emma and Maddy, our Class Reps, for keeping us well informed of school events.

**I will learn maths but first I need to...**

- Count**  
Understanding numbers will help me in all areas of maths
- Sort & Match**  
Understanding same and different will help me to classify
- Explore**  
Exploring will help me understand spatial terms like: in front, behind, above, below, left and right
- Measure**  
Measuring will help me understand the concepts of height, length, weight, time and money
- Pattern**  
Making and recognising patterns will help me make maths predictions
- Recognise shapes**  
Recognising 2D and 3D shapes will help me in all areas with geometry

... and I need someone to explore these concepts with me every day!

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For those children going to school in September, we will soon be starting our transition programme into Reception. The children are already very familiar with visiting the school and eating their lunch in the hall. The Reception staff will be visiting the nursery to read stories and to join in play opportunities to get to know the children.

The first half term we are learning about different types of animals and after the half term break, we'll be learning about People Who Help Us, leading into who helps us in school and preparing the children who will be starting school in September

As always, if you have any questions or queries at any time, please email me directly and I will get back to you as soon as I can or come and have a chat: [h.hope@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:h.hope@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk)

## KEY INFORMATION

- Please label everything, especially jumpers, hats, water bottles and lunch boxes
- Please apply sun cream to your child before arriving at nursery. Please also remember to send your child with a sun hat. We will provide plenty of water for the children to drink during the day. If your child wishes, they can bring a water bottle to nursery
- Please cut grapes, tomatoes and berries etc in half, lengthways, to minimise the risk of choking. It is recommended that popcorn is not given to children under the age of 4. Please remember this when packing your child's lunchboxes

See Overleaf for an overview of the curriculum for this half term →

### Physical Development

- We will be continuing to develop the children's fine motor skills through a range of activities such as playdough, puzzles, threading, and building
- We will be developing the children's independence skills by encouraging them to use a knife and fork and to put on their own clothing and shoes
- We will be playing and exploring in our garden, encouraging the children to move in different ways



### Literacy

- We use a different book each week to base our learning around. This half term it is a book about different types of animals each week
- We will teach Phase 1 phonics, this term focusing on Rhythm and Rhyme and Voice Sounds
- We will continue to share lots of stories, in small groups and as a whole class
- We will use the pictures in books to talk about and discuss what is happening in the story
- We will encourage the children to have a go at writing their name



This Term our topic is:

# Animals



## Squirrels – Summer 1 2024

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- We will encourage the children to follow our rules and routines and develop their independence
- We will talk about making healthy choices about food, drink and physical activity
- We will discuss the importance of toothbrushing
- We will support the children to find solutions to conflicts and rivalries



### Understanding the World

- We will be learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar
- We will be teaching the children to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things
- In RE we will be sharing Bible stories about animals



### Expressive Arts and Design

- The children will have the opportunity to engage in role play and small world activities
- The children will be able to explore a range of craft activities, including creating patterns
- In music, the children will be exploring their voices and making different vocal sounds



### Communication and Language

- We will practise retelling familiar stories using story props to expand vocabulary and develop sequencing skills
- We will be singing favourite rhymes and songs and learning some new ones too
- We will be learning about rhyme and finding matching rhyming objects
- We will be learning specific vocabulary linked to our topic and learning facts about animals
- We will ask the children "who", "what", "where" and "why" questions to develop their understanding and thinking skills



### Maths

- We will be counting different amounts of objects and know that the last number reached when counting tells you how many there are in total (cardinal principle)
- We will be looking at patterns in the environment, particularly animal patterns, and creating our own patterns
- We will be building with shape resources and selecting shapes appropriately, e.g. a triangular prism for a roof

